STATE OF UTAH
NATURAL RESOURCES
Oil, Gas & Mining

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August 6, 1985

Mr. Richard Blubaugh
Regulatory Affairs Manager
Atlas Minerals
P. O. Box 1207
Moab, Utah 84532

Dear Mr. Blubaugh:

Re: Site Tour of Atlas Minerals Louise, Standard #2, Dunn, Rim and Columbus Mines, ACT/037/013, ACT/037/011, ACT/037/017 and ACT/037/006, San Juan County, Utah

The Division personnel involved in the site tour of the above mines would like to thank you for taking time to lead us on the tour. Overall, the Division is satisfied with the condition of the inactive mine sites. The following comments and suggestions pertaining to the mine sites have been prepared and are now being relayed to Atlas Minerals.

The Louise Mine site appeared to be stable with no evidence of major erosion problems or any material moving off site due to precipitation runoff. No comments or suggestions have been prepared by the Division concerning the condition of the Louise Mine.

The Standard #2 Mine also appeared to be in good shape overall. The Division has prepared some suggestions concerning steps Atlas could take to reduce erosional problems associated with the low grade ore pile and the road from the lower pad to the upper pad. The gullying that is occuring on the southwest flank poses a potential for material to move off site. Patching the gully with straw and compacted waste material may stop the gully from moving up the slope. A breach in the berm along the road on the east side of the low grade ore pile was observed. Erosion of material off the pile and through the breached berm is a possibility. Patching the berm and building a water bar to divert any runoff away from the berm would reduce the possibility of low grade ore being transported off site. Additionally, if a small caterpillar is to be used onsite, regrading of the road leading to the upper pad area would help to minimize any further erosion.

A small breach in the berm surrounding the development waste at the Dunn Mine was observed. The Division suggests that the berm be repaired to allow containment of water. At the time of the berm repair, cosideration should be given to the installation of a riser pipe discharge structure. The culvert draining the road leading into the mine site was directed to flow into the berm area around the development waste. Redirecting the flow out of the culvert so it will not enter the bermed area should be considered.

The Rim Mine appears to be in good shape and the Division has no comments or suggestions concerning this site.

The issue of responsibility for reclamation at the Columbus Mine has been reviewed by the Division. Records on file at the Division indicate that as part of the overall reclamation plan for the Rim Mine, the portals at the Columbus Mine will be sealed by Atlas. Responsibility for the reclamation of the extensive waste development and low grade ore dumps are not part of Atlas Minerals reclamation plan as approved by the Division. Therefore, the Division has no comment or suggestions at this time concerning the Columbus Mine Site.

Again, we would like to thank you for your cooperation during our site visit. As always please feel free to contact me should you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Susan C. Linner

Susan C. Linner
Reclamation Biologist/
Permit Supervisor

jvb
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July 16, 1985

TO: Memo to File

FROM: Dave Cline, Reclamation Hydrologist DJC

RE: Site Tour of Atlas Minerals Louise, Standard #2, Dunn, Rim, and Columbus Mines, ACT/037/013, ACT/037/011, ACT/037/017 and ACT/037/006, San Juan County, Utah

On June 25, 1985, Sue Linner, Randy Harden, Rick Summers and Dave Cline toured five inactive uranium mines. Atlas representatives included Richard Blubaugh, Tom Wilson and Wayne Jensen. We met at the Atlas Minerals office in Moab and from there proceeded to the Lisbon Valley and the Louise Mine. Several old buildings were still on site and there was some trash scattered around the site. Overall the mine site was in good condition and there was no evidence of any waste rock or low grade ore moving off site.

The Standard #2 Mine site was visited next. This site was also in good condition overall. The pile of low grade ore appeared to be stabilized with the exception of erosion problems in a couple of areas. Evidence of some rill erosion is occuring on the northeast flank of the pile. Gullying is occuring on the southwest flank. However, a natural catch basin exists below the pile on the southwest side and the material is not moving off site. A small breach in the berm along the road at the base of the pile has occurred. The potential for material eroding off the pile and through the breach exists. In addition, gullying has occured on the road leading from the low grade ore pile to the upper portal area. Discussions of patching the berm, regrading the road and patching the gully on the southwest flank with straw and compacted material took place.

The Dunn Mine site was reviewed next. Conditions at the site were in good condition. A small breach in the berm surrounding the development waste and small pile of low grade ore was observed. Discussion of patching the berm and installing a riser pipe occured. The culvert draining the road entering into the mine site was directed to flow into the bermed area around the development waste. Redirecting the flow out of the culvert so it would not enter the contained area was discussed.

The next site visit was to the Rim Mine. Evidence of erosion off the low grade ore pile was observed. The flanks of the pile, however, were very hard and appeared to be stable. The material eroding off the pile was not moving more than about 100 feet from the pile. The mine water discharge pond was visually inspected. Evidence of treatment with $BaCl_2$ was noted due to the blue color of the water. The pond berms appeared to be sound and the pond in excellent shape. Discharge from the pond was estimated to be approximately 1 gpm.

The Columbus Mine was visited after leaving the Rim Mine. The Columbus Mine site was used by Atlas only as ventilation and escape for the Rim Mine. The development waste at this site was extensive and located in an ephemeral drainage. Several piles of low grade ore were also located in and adjacent to the drainage. Outwash from the low grade ore was evidenced to be moving down the drainage. Discussions took place concerning Atlas' responsibility for reclaiming the development waste and low grade ore. Records of the Rim-Columbus Mine that were brought along by DOGM were consulted but the issue of responsibility was not resolved in the field.

We tried to locate the Spider-Locust Mine site but ended up at the Frisco Mine (Energy Fuels). The mine site was not reclaimed or even cleaned up. The decline was still open and alot of trash was still on site. The waste rock pile and low grade ore pile did appear to be stable and a berm was present at the base of the pile.

We were unable to visit the Spider-Locust Mine due to inaccessibility caused by a sandy drainage. The Windfall Mine was also not visited because the access road could not be located.

It was agreed that DOGM would draft a letter to Atlas Minerals outlining what the minor problems associated with each mine were.

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